

Message Text

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13

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 PCH-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01

SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08 EB-11 CIEP-02 AID-20 /210 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:BWRAMPPELMEIER:BDF

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WHITE HOUSE - MR. JANKA

NEA/P - MR. BRIGGS

S/S-O - ELTZ

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R 180025Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 206390

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT/SAUDI FONMIN REMARKS TO PRESS OCT. 17

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS EXCHANGE OF
REMARKS BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER

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SAQQAF FOLLOWING PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH ARAB FONMINS.

QUOTE:

THE PRESIDENT: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND I HAVE HAD A VERY GOOD TALK DISCUSSING ALL OF THE ASPECTS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE MIDEAST. I WILL NOT GO FURTHER THAN THAN EXCEPT TO SAY THE CONVERSATIONS WILL CONTINUE OVER AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITH DR. KISSINGER, AND ANY STATEMENT WITH REGARD TO THE NATURE OF THE CONVERSATION WILL BE MADE FROM DR. KISSINGER.

Q. WILL HE TELL US WHAT WAS DISCUSSED?

THE PRESIDENT: I DOUBT IF THERE WILL BE A STATEMENT, BUT WHAT I MEAN IS IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, YOU SHOULD ADDRESS THEM TO HIM.

Q. WILL YOU TELL US WHAT GENERAL AREAS WERE COVERED?

FOREIGN MINISTER AL-SAQQAF: IF I HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING, WE FOUR FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM THE ARAB WORLD, REPRESENTING 18 ARAB COUNTRIES, HAVE BEEN RECEIVED WELL AND WE HAD A VERY GOOD EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS EXCELLENCY, MR. PRESIDENT NIXON. THE MEETING AND DISCUSSIONS WERE FRUITFUL AND WE THINK THE MAN WHO COULD SOLVE THE VIETNAM WAR, THE MAN WHO COULD HAVE SETTLED THE PEACE ALL OVER THE WORLD, CAN EASILY PLAY A GOOD ROLE IN SETTTLING AND HAVING PEACE IN OUR AREA OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. DID YOU DISCUSS OIL, MR. MINISTER?

THE PRESIDENT: IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO ASK HIM QUESTIONS BECAUSE HE SPEAKS FOR 18 AND I WILL SIMPLY SAY THIS IN CONCLUSION, THAT HIS EXCELLENCY, THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF SAUDI ARABIA, HAS BEEN VERY GENEROUS IN HIS COMMENTS WITH REGARD TO OUR PEACE MISSION. I EXPLAINED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS IN OUR FIRST FOUR YEARS WE HAD THE OPENING TO CHINA, WE HAD A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND OF COURSE, WE BROUGHT AN END TO THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

I TOLD THEM THAT A MAJOR GOAL, AND AN URGENT GOAL AT THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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TIME WHICH WE BELIEVE CAN, WILL AND MUST BE ACHIEVED IS A FAIR AND JUST AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDEAST AND WE ARE ALL DEDICATED TO THAT GOAL. WHATEVER DIFFERENCES WE HAVE ARE WITH REGARD TO THE MEANS, WITH REGARD TO, OF COURSE, CERTAIN ENDS AS WELL, BUT THE GOAL OF A FAIR AND JUST AND EQUITABLE PEACE WE ARE ALL DEDICATED TO. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED BAGHDAD.

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